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For two years past the gates that lie between life and death have been unbarred. No longer singly, or through narrow door, but in ordered companies and battalions, men have entered into the vast halls of death. In the glare of battle and the thunder of artillery they have passed, evening figures, furnished by a stormy sunset of cloud and fire, they have seemed, for one splendid moment, magnified and transfigured; and then, in the twinkling of an eye, they are gone, and our eyes behold them no more. Unceasingly the march continues; unmoved the open gates rest on their hinges; the open way still runs from life to death, and sense grows on the mind of the unity between death and life, the community between the quick and the dead. Death is grown a familiar friend, who has put aside his sting; and whatever victories may be proclaimed, there is no victory of the grave.

There are days in which our old estimations and values are changed. Young men have set life against death, and found that other things were more worth while; they have weighed death in the balance, and found death more tolerable than the things they could not tolerate. They have seen that all their rights—even the right to live, and to draw happy English air into their blood—are the gift of the Commonwealth, and to be spent, according to the rules of all faithful guardianship, for the benefit of the world, enjoined by the giver. Into that world, and into that life, they have mounted up with wings undimmed; and those who knew them, loved them, and talked with them, have learned from them the lesson they had learned for themselves, and have come to see what are the things of real price, and wherein true profit and genuine loss are to be found.

Material values have altered in these years, and we walk in a new world of monetary prices. Is it an idle thing to say that "spiritual values" have changed, or that we walk in a new world in which the prices even of priceless things are different? We have made friends with exultations and agonies; we live on a plane and in a temper which in our normal years we did not know. Here in Oxford, in one of our college chapels, the memorial service has been said and sung regularly at the end of each term over the dead. Turn by term, the "Dead March" has been played on the organ; term by term, at the end of the services, the "Last Post" has been sounded on the trumpet. The fellow of the college who read the lesson at one commemorative service lay in his grave, by the Somme, at the next, and life, from day to day, passed so steadily into death that one asks us the Greek asked:—

Who knows but life may after all be death.
And death be real life?

But this is perhaps the temper of minds strained and wrought by heavy pressure; and the new values which we attach in such a temper, to the spiritual values, our experience may, like the service, lay in the region of those future days when the tumult and the shouting die. We cannot tell what we shall feel, or what ultimate sense of loss may be the residue, until time has come for reflection and we can make up the account of our loss and our gain.

We shall have to pass through the valley of regret and of vain longing for the sound of hushed voices. But soon, we trust, we shall breast the hill that lies beyond the valley, and climb to a height where we shall see another vision—the vision of the things to be done, the gaps to be filled, the ideals to be made actual, in the new age of peace for the sake of which so many have given their lives. They have left us, also, the duty of finding courage to lay hold on the occasion they have given. If they have died because they held their lives in trust for their country, we who live must henceforth live as men who also hold our lives in trust for our country. Our country will not ask us for the last full measure of devotion which they gave, but it will ask, and it will need, every service which we can give for its perfection. It would be treason to those who gave their lives for England in war, if we did not, after their good example, give our lives to England in peace. There will be so much in years to come that we can do to make our country better—so much in the way of improvement of her system of education; so much in the way of improvement of the relations between masters and workmen; so much in every state of life to which it shall please God to call us, that there is likely to be little enough time for thinking of ourselves and our own self-realization, even if such thinking of ourselves were itself a healthy thing. And it will be all the more incumbent upon us to think of all the great new things which we shall have the occasion of doing, since so many of the large minds that loved to think and to dream of these things will be hushed and quiet. So much of the spring has been taken out of the year, so great, therefore, is the burden laid on all that are left—the young who have been too young for the war, and the old who have been too old. We must make that old French sign for the unattainable—*jeunesse servait, et vieillesse pouvait*—into something actually attained; we must make the young men wise and understanding, and we must turn the captives and world-weary temper of older years into power and courage.

Many of those who have gone to their death were fond of disparaging, with a certain shy self-depreciation natural to men of their country, the quality of their own motives and the temper of their own courage. They went—so they said—because no man with any self-respect could do otherwise, and because they had no choice. They would tell you frankly, that they were far from being even half in love with "useful death"; that they dreaded, as every human being must dread, the thought that they must cease

(Continued at foot of next column.)

CONCERNING COURAGE.

(By G. LE DON.)

Life is a precious possession to men; but he readily sacrifices it under certain circumstances, especially in obedience to ancestral impulses, which are stronger than the instinct of self-preservation.

Courage is resistance to the natural fear of danger. It is compounded of various elements which make up a complex whole that appears under different aspects. It may be accidental, and in that case is comparatively easy to practise; but when it assumes a continuous form it is a more difficult matter, except when habit makes it almost unconscious.

The European War gives us the opportunity of making a great many very interesting psychological reflections on the subject of courage, for the observations recorded on the various battlefields are most instructive. Among the letters which I have received from the Front, I have selected the following one written by M. de B—, an artillery officer:—

"With regard to gallantry the war has made me distinguish a who's great gamut of qualities which I had before lumped together in more or less confusion.

"In the first place I have come to realise the truth of the Spanish expression, which says of a man, 'He was brave on such and such a day.'

"The most admirable quality in gallantry is that which impels a man to leave a place of safety, although he is not under the excitement of battle, and to plunge with cool calculation into some danger which he knows and has estimated to its full extent.

"True courage is prudent, and limits itself strictly to what is necessary; nor does it ever bluster, unless the soldiers are wavering and have to be carried along by the force of example.

"The courage of one and the same body of men is all or nothing according to circumstances, a fact which is especially true for the very susceptible French temperament. A body of Germans would certainly vary less in this respect.

"The men's confidence in their officers is a most important factor, for the very same soldiers will succeed or fail under identical circumstances, simply according to the way they are led."

French military courage has changed greatly since the beginning of the war, and has necessarily lost its hasty and impulsive character, which cost so many men. The soldiers were at first entirely under the influence of the obsolete methods which the General Staff had never modified, and hence they exposed themselves to the adversary's fire and flung themselves insanely upon enemy batteries that came down to them and moved them down without suffering any loss in turn. Such tactics, of course, soon led to disastrous defeat, and contributed to the success of the Germans quite as much as did the incapacity of French generalship.

A German General, emphasises this point in an interview which was published by the *Figaro* of October 5th, 1914:—

"Your infantry deserves great praise, but it has serious, nay terrible, defects, of which the most dangerous is its courage. Your foot-soldiers expose themselves without protection, and seem to take a delight in making targets of themselves. It is an easy matter to aim at them and to hit them. Of course, it is heroic, but it is preposterous."

"You think that courage is always advantageous, and so it is in cases like the storming of fortified places, or bayonet charges. But too much courage in soldiers is more often a nuisance than an advantage. You do not realize this, but it is true, nevertheless. You do not seem to know that if you want to conquer you must conceal yourself, disguise your approach, expose yourself to the enemy as little as may be, dig a hole in the ground and lie snug in it, make use of every rock and recess in the countryside, see the enemy and not be seen by him."

"Perhaps you will learn all this some day by seeing us do it. You must run every risk in battle, but none outside it."

The soldiers have finally learned from experience what their officers had forgotten to teach them in time of peace.

to be. They could talk quietly of the chances of life and death—how the chances of death were as ten to one, and yet how each, in his inmost heart, believed that he would be an exception to the rule.

This matter of the chances of life and death was often present to their minds (how could it be otherwise), and if sometimes it might enter into fatalism often it brought them into a very close and living dependence on the Maker and Giver of life and death. Whatever their thoughts, and whatever their fears of death, there was one thing they dreaded most—and that was, when the ordeal came, they might fail to meet it with the quick insight and ready resolution which it needed. This dread was almost always ungrounded, but it was a noble dread. What they feared, after all, was at bottom this: that they might not, in a crisis, do their duty by their men, or by their brother officers, or by their commander. In a word, they feared lest they should fail to do "their duty to their neighbours." And that, though they may have been unconscious of it, was really their motive and their rule of life. It is what we also have to make our motive and our rule of life. If we do that, we need fear no evil. If we do that, the community of the living and the dead will remain; and between those who died in this spirit and those who live in this spirit there will be fellowship and understanding. Thus, and thus only, the gates between life and death will stand open, and the open road of communion in a common purpose will keep us close to those whom we have lost—and whom again, because we are true to them, and because we keep alive their spirit in ourselves, we have not lost at all.

(The Times.)

THE RESOURCES OF JAPAN.

LECTURE BY CONSUL-GENERAL.

At the monthly meeting of the Japan Society, London, recently, a paper was read on "The Resources of Japan in their Relation to British Commerce after the War," by Mr. K. Yamazaki, Consul-General for Japan. Mr. Marcus B. Huish, LL.B., presided. The lecturer said:—Japan was opened up to international intercourse in the latter part of the nineteenth century. It was an American commodore who first visited Japan and induced the Government, then under the Tokugawa family, to open her ports to European trade. The first English envoy sent to Japan was Sir Harry Parkes, (†) who was responsible for the conclusion of the first Commercial Treaty between England and Japan. Since the Meiji Reformation in 1868, Japanese industrial resources have rapidly developed. Englishmen have contributed greatly to the progress of Japan, and we are grateful for the kind assistance which this country has given us. They made the first railway between Yokohama and Tokyo, a distance of 113 miles, in 1872. Now Japan had over 7,000 miles of railways. In 1915 the total gross tonnage of Japan's commercial fleet was over 1,600,000 tons. It is very gratifying to note that, with the development of Japanese industrial resources and the improved facilities of communication, Japan's trade with Great Britain, France, Russia, and other friendly countries has shown a great increase. However, the present war has considerably disturbed international commerce. While the Allies are putting forth their utmost exertions to bring this war to a victorious issue, it is incumbent upon us to study the economic resources of each Allied country in their relation to international trade after the war.

It may be asserted that Japan's large population is an important asset to her industry. Being a mountainous country, only 30 per cent. of the total area of Japan is under cultivation, yet there is engaged in agriculture constitute nearly 60 per cent. of the total population. As to Japan's mineral resources, Japan is the second largest copper-producing country in the world. Japan is supplying this country, and her other Allies with a large amount of copper. We now supply a large amount of Australia with a certain amount of coal. The production of gold was fairly large until recent times. Before the country was opened up for international intercourse, gold had been abundant as compared with silver. When Japan was thrown open to international trade a great amount of gold flowed out of the country, on account of the difference in the ratio to silver, entailing a great loss to the nation.

THE ADVANCE OF INDUSTRY.
It is significant that Japan is rapidly changing from an agricultural to an industrial nation. Cotton manufacture is one of the principal industries of Japan. The statistics show that the average number of spindles working daily in Japan in 1914 was about 2,400,000. There are a number of large cotton mills in Osaka and Tokyo, and some of them are admirably equipped for looking after the welfare and comfort of the employees. Woollen manufacture was not carried on before on any considerable scale, but the war has given an impetus to this industry, and Japanese factories are executing orders from the Russian Government. As regards the Government ironworks, and, besides, there are others in private hands. As Japan lacks rich iron mines, she imports iron ore chiefly from China. Ship-building is very flourishing in Japan at present. The total tonnage now under construction is estimated at 600,000 tons.

After thus giving a short survey of the agricultural and industrial resources of Japan, let me speak briefly on the subject of her financial conditions. In 1915 the total revenue of the Japanese Government amounted to about 280,000,000, and its total expenditure was about 260,000,000. After the Manchurian campaign in 1905-1906, Japan's external loans reached the high total of 2,125,000,000, but this debt was reduced to 2,142,000,000 by March, 1916. I am happy to say that quite recently Japan lent about 212,000,000 to Russia to enable her to cover the payment for war materials ordered from Japan. The Japanese Government also bought British Treasury Bills to the amount of 210,000,000 in America to help ameliorate the Anglo-American exchange, and in December last year a British loan for 210,000,000 was raised in Japan most successfully. The proceeds of the loan were remitted to America to serve the same purpose.

Now I come to the subject of trade between the United Kingdom and Japan. This country used to export to Japan far more than it imported from Japan. In 1913 total exports to Japan amounted to nearly 214,000,000, while imports from Japan were only about 24,000,000. The principal exports to Japan were ships, iron, and steel, machinery, sulphate of ammonia, woollen, worsted, and cotton manufactures, but the chief imports from Japan were silk manufactures, copper, straw braids, chemical products, buttons, and studs. Thus you will see that Japan has been a very good customer to English manufacturers. Since the beginning of the war the exports of this country to Japan have greatly decreased, owing to the difficulties of production, etc. On the other hand, the imports to this country from Japan have increased considerably.

The exports from the U.K. to Japan in 1916 were valued at 25,000,000, while the imports to this country from Japan in the same year were about 29,000,000. The principal commodities exported from this country to Japan in 1915 were iron and steel, machinery and cotton manufactures, and the chief articles imported to this country from Japan in 1915 were silk manufactures, copper, vegetable oil, straw and hemp braids, green peas, and rice. It may safely be asserted that the trade between the United Kingdom and Japan.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

SERVING RIFLES.

All Service Rifles not yet returned to the Armoury will be returned on Friday, March 16th, between 5.15 and 5.45 p.m. All exemptions, medical and otherwise, are subject to this Order.

No. 1 COMPANY.

Patrolmen claiming exemption from the parade on Friday, March 16th, on account of Race week duty, must forthwith produce their Standing Order Books and Armlets for inspection by their Section Commanders.

MUSKETRY COURSE, PART II.

All men who are qualified to fire, but have not yet fired, Part II. of the 1917 Course will attend the Range on Sunday next, March 18th, leaving Blake Pier at 9 a.m., returning at about noon.

Lists of these are being sent to Company Commanders.

The above date is the last fixture for fixing the 1917 Course.

ORCHESTRA.

Thursday, March 15th—Practice.
Monday, March 19th—Government House, rehearsal.

The A.S.P. (R.) will examine recruits submitted by Co. Sergt.-Majors for passing out at Central Station on Monday, March 19th, at 5.30 p.m.

(Sgd.) F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (R.).

March 14th, 1917.

HOW A MOTHER KEPT HER SON AT HOME.

Mrs. T. Lucking, butcher, appealed to the Essex County Appeal Tribunal at Dunmow for exemption for her son, aged 36, and William Gladstone Spurgeon, 29, a single slaughterman, paid 16s. a week.

The Chairman (Mr. Collingwood Hope, K.C.): To have employed a man for 16 years and to pay him 16s. a week is very scanty wages. If Spurgeon goes to the Army you will make his sister an allowance?

Mrs. Lucking: I don't know about that; I shall have to consult my son to see if he can allow her a little.

The Chairman: Very well, then; if you can't promise us that you will make Spurgeon's sister an allowance we shall give him conditional exemption and send your son to the Army.

Mrs. Lucking: If it is like that, I will allow Miss Spurgeon 5s. a week to keep my son at home.

The Chairman: You only offer that to keep your son from going to the Army, but we will agree to it.

Japan during the last two years has been in an abnormal state. When the world again enters upon a peaceful existence, international trade relations will be put into the melting pot. As to Anglo-Japanese trade, to a certain extent, it will return to pre-war conditions, but after the war new and powerful elements will be at work. After the conclusion of peace, Japan's demand for highly-united articles, such as machines, electric apparatus, iron and steel manufactures, cottons and woollens of high grade, and chemical products will receive a stimulus. German merchants used to be the unscrupulous competitors of English merchants in the Japanese market before the war. In the future no Japanese will buy German goods, and English manufacturers will find Japan a very attractive market for their finished goods. In the same way I hope that a greater amount of Japanese goods than before will be supplied to the English market, hitherto flooded with German and Austrian goods.

GERMANY'S TRADE MUST NOT REVIVE.

It is highly advisable that you should further develop various key industries within the British Empire, if not within the United Kingdom. With this object in view, you might, perhaps, adopt some form of protection. As regards trade relations between Japan, on the one hand, and with India and Australia on the other, we must see to it that after the war Germany's trade shall never revive in Japan nor in the United Kingdom, nor in the British Dominions and Colonies, so that commercial relations between Japan and the British Empire will become closer, unless undue obstructions are placed on the road. China is one of the greatest commercial markets in the world. Japan has been accused of encroaching on British trade interests in China, but, in my belief, this accusation is absolutely devoid of foundation. Last year I hope to see a greater amount of Japanese goods than before will be supplied to the English market, hitherto flooded with German and Austrian goods.

Mr. N. Kato said the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, which was confirmed by the joining of the Japanese Army in the war operations, should give an impetus to the development of industrial life between our two nations after the war. However, he could not see very well how they could avoid the import of goods produced in Germany and Austria after the war. So it seemed to him very important that British merchants should see to it that they will compete with German goods, both in price and quality.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.
MISSING BRICKS.

Acting on a complaint made by a Wanchai contractor as to the loss of bricks, a watch was kept and a coolie was arrested.

The defendant's excuse was that he had been employed by another man, but Mr. Wood sentenced him to three months' hard labour.

A WANDERER.

A disreputable-looking Chinese was charged before Mr. Wood with being a rogue and vagabond. In the early hours of yesterday morning the Tidian watchman at Messrs. Whitenway, Laidlaw & Co. saw the man wandering about the first floor, and, his explanations not proving satisfactory, he was handed over to the police. The watchman mentioned that several things had been missed of late.

Defendant, who said that he had been unemployed for two years, that he lived and slept in the open air, and that he had been away to the country for a holiday occasionally, was sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour and four hours' stocks. He had had previous convictions against him.

YOUTHFUL THIEVES.

Two small Chinese boys appeared before Mr. Wood charged with stealing a quantity of nails from a shopkeeper at Chung San Wai. The complainant, at an early hour on Wednesday morning, saw four boys leaving his shop. He caught one of them and took him to the police station. As the result of information given by this boy, the second was arrested.

The first boy stated that he was told by a man to steal the nails, and if he had not done so he would have been thrashed. The second boy told the same story.

One of the defendants was discharged, owing to lack of evidence, but the other was ordered to receive ten strokes with the birch and also to be detained in goal for 24 hours.

ROBBING A GUEST.

A Chinese at Yau-mat asked a fellow-countryman to share his match with him for the night. The offer was accepted, and on the following morning the owner of the match told his guest that he could obtain good employment for him, and told him to pack up his clothes. This was done, and the two men then made their way to Kowloon City, where the clothes were left at a stall. The match owner then went to the back of the police station, mentioning that he was going to look for a foreman, the guest of the evening being asked to wait. When he had left his guest the defendant went back to the stall and took the clothes away. Later in the day he was seen riding in Yau-mat and arrested.

Sentence of six weeks' hard labour was passed.

PICKPOCKETS.

Sergeant Wills charged three Chinese before Mr. Wood, one with attempting to pick a man's pocket and the two others with assaulting the complainant. It appeared from the evidence that the complainant, a contractor, was standing near a stall in Reclamation Street, Yau-mat, when the three men came up to the stall. He felt his pocket being picked, and, when the alarm was given, the complainant caught hold of the man who had "touched" his pocket. Thereupon the other two men set upon the complainant. The three defendants, who are defended by Mr. Goldring, were remanded.

Another Chinese was charged before Mr. Melbourne with picking a man's pocket, removing \$216 in notes. Complainant, who is a shopkeeper, had been collecting money from his customers and was walking along Des Vaux Road when he was jostled by the defendant, and then the complainant felt his pocket being picked. Defendant ran away, but a Police Reserve constable who was on duty near the Sincere store, seeing what had happened, gave chase and caught the pickpocket. While being chased the defendant threw the notes away, and they were picked up by the complainant.

Sentence of three months' hard labour and four hours' stocks was passed; it being mentioned that the defendant had only completed a baptismal order on the day the theft took place.

IDLE GOLD FOR THE VICTORY LOAN.

A man emptied \$2,000 in gold on the counter of a branch bank at New Malden, Surrey, to the surprise of the manager and his clerks. It was to buy War Loan.

ALLEGED FORGED DOCUMENTS.

A MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY.

The action in which Mr. E. V. Carmichael, Official Receiver, sues the Po Yuen, Ma Chee Lung and Lee Hysen, to account for 100 chests of opium belonging to the Yuen Hing Company, of which the plaintiff is liquidator, was resumed yesterday before Mr. Justice Gumpertz. The value of the opium in question is estimated at a million dollars.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Alabaster and Mr. Eldon Potter for the defendants.

Mr. Alabaster, continuing his cross-examination of Chan Kang Lu, asked:

You say it used to be the practice for a man when he signed an important document to put in the words *tik pat*, or "own hand-writing"?—Witness—Yes.

You said it was not done in unimportant documents, such as a minute-book?—Yes. No one suggested minute-book to me. It just occurred to me at the time. It is not an important document, but I would call a promissory note important.

You would expect to find these words *tik pat* on that?—Yes.

Especially if it was for \$5,000?—Even if it was for \$1 I would expect it.

I show you two promissory notes signed by Ku Yin San without having these words affixed. Do you consider them forgeries?—There is no *tik pat* there, but it bears the chop of the granter of the note—Po Lung firm.

If it is the Po Lung's note is it not the more necessary that he should put in that it was his own handwriting?—No, not with the chop on it.

Does it strike you as fraudulent because these words are not on it?—No, it is in order.

If it is a note of the Po Lung Hing Kee, bearing their chop, does his signing it not indicate that he takes the responsibility?—He is merely vouching that it is the Po Lung chop.

Is it not necessary that he should put the words "own handwriting" on it?—I don't know.

The whole value of the voucher for the chop would be lost if there was any doubt about the genuineness of the signature?—I don't know, but in my own business I would put the words after my signature. I came here from the Chamber of Commerce to speak to these two documents.

Ku Yin San has not added these words to his signature in these four documents?—That is his business.

And it would seem from that that it is not his practice to do this, or else, that they are all forgeries?—I don't know which is the explanation. I can't say what he would do, but I would put these words after my signature on promissory notes.

If Ku was signing an important document for a firm would he put *tik pat* to his signature?—I can't say what Ku would do, but I would do it. I would call a letter of guarantee for \$100,000, signed by Ku Yin San, an important document and I would have put *tik pat* on such a document as that.

Now that you have seen all those five documents without these words to Ku's signature, would you say that it does not appear to be his practice to put these words in?—I don't know whether Ku Yin San wrote the signatures or not.

In the absence of the words you cannot say that they are genuine?—I don't know. I came here to speak of what had been decided in the Chamber of Commerce, and not to be examined on all the documents in the case. I am a busy man and want to get away.

His Lordship: You will have to be a little patient. You are summoned here as a witness to assist the Court with your experience of such documents as are put before you.

Mr. Alabaster: You said yesterday with respect to one of the documents that it was out of order because the date was below the signature, and not above it?—Witness: Yes.

I show you a document with Ku's signature having the date below it?—Yes; that is a letter. That is all right for a letter, but not for an agreement.

Would you agree that a document, by which the directors of a Company agree to subscribe new capital is an important document?—If they really intended to increase their capital it would be an important document.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

BREACH OF BUILDING CONTRACT.

\$1,000 DAMAGES AWARDED.

The Chief Justice yesterday in the Summary Court awarded \$1,000 damages in an action brought by Lau Shun-cho against Yeung King-shung.

The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Agassiz, solicitor, and Mr. R. C. Faithfull, solicitor, appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Agassiz, in his opening statement, said plaintiff had purchased a lot of ground in Kennedy Road, on which he proposed to erect four houses. He entered into a contract with defendant to erect three houses in November last year, Mr. Clark being the architect. There was considerable delay about starting the work, and the only part of the work done by the defendant—the digging of some trenches—contravened the building regulations. The architect became impatient, went to see the defendant, who asked verbally to be released from the contract, and subsequently, in a letter, announced that his Company had been wound up. When defendant signed the contract he did so as an individual and said nothing about his firm. The plaintiff, through the architect, offered to settle on payment of \$500, and in reply to this defendant simply returned the plans and specification without any comment or proposal. Plaintiff pleaded that he had lost \$3,500 in the increased price he had had to pay under a fresh contract, and had lost rent through defendant's delay.

Mr. Clark, in his opening statement, said plaintiff had purchased a lot of ground in Kennedy Road, on which he proposed to erect four houses. He entered into a contract with defendant to erect three houses in November last year, Mr. Clark being the architect. There was considerable delay about starting the work, and the only part of the work done by the defendant—the digging of some trenches—contravened the building regulations. The architect became impatient, went to see the defendant, who asked verbally to be released from the contract, and subsequently, in a letter, announced that his Company had been wound up. When defendant signed the contract he did so as an individual and said nothing about his firm. The plaintiff, through the architect, offered to settle on payment of \$500, and in reply to this defendant simply returned the plans and specification without any comment or proposal. Plaintiff pleaded that he had lost \$3,500 in the increased price he had had to pay under a fresh contract, and had lost rent through defendant's delay.

HONGKONG MARINE COURT.
SECOND MATE FINED.

In the Marine Court yesterday Commander Beckwith had before him Ernest G. Andrew, second mate on board the s.s. *Pak Loi*, charged with refusing to join his ship and absconding himself without leave.

From the evidence given by the master of the vessel, Captain John Dewar, and others, it seems that defendant went ashore without leave the night before the vessel was due to leave, and no other officer being available to fill his place the vessel was detained for a period of 36 hours past her sailing time.

Defendant was sentenced to eight weeks' imprisonment and a fine of \$100.

COMPANY REPORT.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

We are officially informed that, subject to audit, the General Managers and Consulting Committee of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., will recommend at the forthcoming meeting of shareholders to be held on 28th instant, the payment out of the profits for the year 1915 of a dividend of \$27 per share, absorbing \$216,000; to pass \$15,000 to credit of Reinsurance Fund; \$103,140.51 to credit of Investment and Exchange Fluctuation Account; and to carry forward \$497,907.71 in respect of the year 1916.

Well, I show you such a document, bearing the signatures of the directors, and the date is at the bottom, away from the text—This is a minute of a meeting and has a date at both ends.

That minute is signed by five directors and a chairman—Yes.

None of those signatories have *tik pat* after their signatures?—No, because it is merely a minute.

After the signatures you have got the names of persons agreeing to take more shares?—It is not an agreement, but a promise by these men to produce fresh capital. It is just like me signing my name to a subscription list. This is just a statement that they are willing to take new shares.

Do you mean to say that it is not a binding agreement, by these men to take the number of shares appearing opposite their names?—No, it would not be. When the time came they might say "I have no money." In a document like this the idea is to help the business. I state what I am prepared to do at the time, but at the time of collection I am not bound to pay. In this sort of document these signatures do not bind the signatories to anything. The words *tik pat* are not after the signatures because the document is not important.

Mr. D. W. Tso, solicitor, and Mr. John H. Seth, accountant, were afterwards examined, and the hearing was adjourned.

SWATOW NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, March 11th.

REPARATION FOR A MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A PRIEST.

We gather that reparation has been made by the Chinese authorities in the case of Père Etienne, of the French Mission, who was murderously assaulted a considerable time ago. We have not learned that the criminals were arrested, but that they were traced to their habitat. The authorities, having learned so much, know well how to apply the "instruments of extraction." The village must produce the men wanted or the equivalent in dollars. We hear that the latter alternative has been chosen, and that in the immediate future we shall behold one or two beautiful church edifices in the neighbourhood.

A PROUD BOAST.

Our General has devised a new method of dealing with thieves and all undesirable persons. Every town and village is being supplied with blank paper books in which the Town Council or the village chief is asked to write down the names of every person who is a peace-breaker or thief, or otherwise engaged in illegalities. Happy the town which has no evil person to report. Such is the case in Tablung Heu, on the Han River. The authorities replied to the General's orders that he need not forward the books, for there is no subject for entry.

THE DRINK TRAFFIC AND ITS TAXATION.

Dealers in intoxicants are at their wits' ends. They have been ordered by the Chief Tax Collector to hand in their licences for renewal. They hold back. Now a date has been fixed on which they must appear, failing which dire consequences will ensue. The taxes are to be greatly increased; hence the slow movements or "wait and see" policy of the publicans.

MONEY-LENDERS IN DIFFICULTIES.

The small money-lending companies in Swatow have fallen on evil times. No end of them have failed and are unable to meet the demands of their clients. Paper money will not circulate, and the holders of it find to their sorrow that there is no silver to back it. We hear now and again of the authorities trying to check this reckless banking system, but failures, such as the present, show how ineffective the ruling of the authorities is.

NEW COINS TO REPLACE "CASH."

We learn that the Cantonese Government is issuing large quantities of new coins to replace the present "cash" system. The new issue is announced to be the equivalent of one cent, equal to ten cash and half a cent. These coins have a square hole in the centre and so admit of being strung together like the present "cash" in circulation. The Japanese are said to be responsible for the new coinage. It is reported that they bought up large quantities of the old copper cash, melted them down, and converted them into ornaments. The Chinese have endeavoured to prohibit the removal of these "cash" from their markets, but how can it be prevented? When the thousand-cash strings fail what will the little children do? How can they buy the 1-40 of a penny's worth of sweets?

THE OLD AND THE NEW IN CONFLICT.

Ta-pu from of old has been rich in the production of classical scholars. The new system of education has rendered this distinction less conspicuous. The classical "mons" have been irritated, and have actually tried, in spite of the authorities, to reinstate the old system of schools. The parents gladly backed them. The consequence is that the Government schools have been denounced. Realising the facts, the Government has now issued strict injunctions that these Confucian schools must be closed forthwith.

NOVEL METHOD OF RAISING SCHOOL FUNDS.

The superintendent of a Government school in our neighbourhood found that his funds would not meet the expenses of his school, so he took to the novel plan of appealing to the medium of the local idol temple to secure for him the temple dues. His pleading was successful. Others interested in the temple dues objected, and there was a joint appeal once more to the temple medium, but with the same result. The superintendent has thus succeeded in diverting a considerable sum of money, to maintain his school, into the coffers of the institution.

INTIMATIONS.

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HAND-MADE IN CAIRO.

No. 3, Large ...

\$4.50 per 100

or 2.30 - 50

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\$3.50 per 100

or 1.85 - 50

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\$3.20 per 100

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

CHINESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL.

A Class for "Beginners" will commence on MONDAY, 2nd April, 1917. Application for enrolment should be made to the Undersecretary as early as possible. By Order, H. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary. Hongkong, 15th March, 1917. 398

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE of a SPECIAL EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE to be held on MONDAY, 26th March, 1917, at 4 P.M. in the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM, NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDING. A notice has been expressed that the following Resolution shall be put:— "That Clause 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE should be amended by the insertion of the word 'British' between the word 'to' and the word 'Members' in the first line thereof." By Order, E. A. M. WILLIAMS, Secretary. Hongkong, 16th March, 1917. 399

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

COMPANIES (Winding-up). No. 5 of 1915.

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, 1911-1915, and IN THE MATTER OF THE YUEN ON INSURANCE, EXCHANGE LOAN AND GARDEN COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE CREDITORS of the above-named Company who have not already sent in their claims are required, on or before SATURDAY, the 31st day of March, 1917, to send their names and addresses, and the particulars of their Debts or Claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any) to C. A. DA ROZA, care of LOWE, BRIDGEMAN & MATTHEWS, of New Government Building, Des Voeux Road, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required, by Notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are by their Solicitors or personally to come in and prove their said Debts or Claims at the Office of the Official Receiver, Courts of Justice, Hongkong, at such time as shall be specified in such Notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such Debts are proved. Dated this 14th day of March, 1917. C. A. DA ROZA, Liquidator. 400

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SKOPS situated in Lee House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed. For rent and other particulars apply to— THE MANAGER, HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD., 45, Connaught Road Central. 401

TO LET.

NEW HOUSE in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation. Also 1 GODOWN in Duddell Street. For rent and other particulars apply to— H. M. NEMAZEE, 1 Des Voeux Road. 402

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART MAATSCHAPPY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

THE Steamship "JACOB" having arrived from the above ports. Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Steamship Co., Ltd., wharves and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained. Goods not cleared by the 21st Mar., 1917, will be subject to rent. All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined by Messrs. Goddard and Douglas on the 20th Mar., 1917, at 10 A.M. Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of Steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized. No Fire Insurance will be effected by the underwriters in any case whatever. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN LUN, Agents. Hongkong, 14th March, 1917. 403

THEATRE ROYAL.

SPECIAL MATINEE!

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH, 4.30 P.M.

THE MEMBERS of the NEW BANDMAN OPERA COMPANY

will present a

POT-POURRI ENTERTAINMENT

in Aid of a FUND to provide

Entertainment during the coming months

for

MEN OF HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICES

IN THE COLONY.

The WHOLE of the Gross Proceeds will be given to this object.

Bookings at MOUTRIE'S.

PRICES... \$3, \$2 & \$1.

BOOK EARLY AND HELP THIS DISSEMINATING FUND.

PUBLIC COMPANIES

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Building, 24th March, 1917, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and declaring a Dividend. By Order of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Hongkong, 6th March, 1917. 374

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the General Managers at 11.30 A.M. on WEDNESDAY, 28th March, 1917, for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1916, and the report of the General Managers. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 26th instant, both days inclusive. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers. Hongkong, 8th March, 1917. 381

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersigned at Noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 28th instant. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to the 26th instant, both days inclusive. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers. Hongkong, 8th March, 1917. 382

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Fiddlers Street, on FRIDAY, the 30th instant at 2 P.M. for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 18th to 30th March, both days inclusive. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Agents. Hongkong, 9th March, 1917. 388

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY, 1st March, to SATURDAY, 31st March, 1917, both days inclusive. The return of Capital of \$2.50 per Share will be paid to Shareholders on and after the 15th March, 1917, on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement. By Order of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Hongkong, 22nd February, 1917. 329

UNION WATERBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the UNION WATERBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held at the Office of Messrs. DODWELL & CO., LTD., the General Managers of the Company, Queen's Building, Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, on THURSDAY, the 29th day of March, 1917, at 11.30 o'clock A.M. when the subjoined Resolutions which were passed at Extraordinary Meetings of the said Company held on the 19th day of March, 1917, will be submitted for confirmation as Special Resolutions:— (1) That the issued Capital of the Company be Reduced from \$277,230 (Two Hundred and Seventy-seven Thousand, Two Hundred and Thirty Dollars) Divided into 27,723 (Twenty-seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-three) Shares of \$10 (Ten Dollars) each, to \$194,061 (One Hundred and Ninety-four Thousand and Sixty-one Dollars) Divided into 27,723 (Twenty-seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-three) Shares of \$7 (Seven Dollars) each, and that such Reduction be effected by Retaining (on such date as the Company's General Managers shall appoint) to the holders of the 27,723 (Twenty-seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-three) Shares that have been issued paid up Capital to the extent of \$83 (Three Dollars) per Share and by Reducing the nominal amount of each of the said Shares from \$10 (Ten Dollars) to \$7 (Seven Dollars). (2) That application be made to the Supreme Court of Hongkong to confirm the Reduction of the Capital of the Company in conformity with the foregoing Resolution. Dated this Fourteenth day of March, 1917. DODWELL & CO., LTD., General Managers. 386

NOTICE.

WE beg to inform the Public and to those whom it may concern that Mr. N. EMANUEL ALLAY has this Day taken over our Business of Shareholders, &c. including the Godwill, and will henceforth carry on the said Business under the same style or Firm name, and our interest and responsibility in the said concern will cease on and after that date. THE PARSEE TRADING CO., Proprietors. Canton, 1st March, 1917. 371

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET—IMMEDIATELY.

LARGE OFFICE, Centrally Situated in Queen's Road, fully partitioned and fitted with electric light, telephone and sub. exchange. Apply— "X. Y. Z." Office. Case of "Daily Press" Office. 383

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED and newly painted inside, 3, Stewart Terrace. Apply— H. E. POLLOCK, Prince's Buildings. 87

TO LET.

NO. 42, ELGIN STREET. Apply to— PERCY SMITH, SEITH & FLEMING. 102

TO LET.

From 1st May OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Building. Apply to— BREWSTER, TOMES & CO. 69

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon. A FLAT in Hampshire Buildings, Kowloon. TO LET OR FOR SALE. KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 with wharf area 58,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns. Apply to— HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD., Alexandra Buildings. 1291

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central. OFFICES in King's and York Buildings. "THE RETREAT," No. 58, The Peak. HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Connaught Road, and in Broadwood and Morena Terraces, Shamoan Canton. Apply to— THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD. 128

FOR SALE.

ONE 104 B.H.P. HORNSBY ACKROYD OIL ENGINE, complete with and coupled direct to one 8 K.W. Continuous Current Shunt Wound Dynamo of 50/70 volts with shunt regulator. Also ONE SWITCHBOARD for ACCUMULATORS DYNAMO, &c., complete with instruments for 100 Amps. For further particulars apply to— LINDSEY & DAVIS, Alexandra Buildings. 161

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

ALL OUTGOING and INCOMING STEAMERS and STEAM LAUNCHES are hereby warned that when passing HOLTE WHARVES, which are under construction with divers working, they MUST NOT PASS WITHIN a distance of 200 yards of them and to slow down their speed to 4 knots. C. W. BRACKWITH, Harbour Master, &c. Harbour Department, Hongkong, 10th March, 1917. 392

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily. Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers. All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations. The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50. 55

NOW READY.

THE

DIRECTORY

AND

CHRONICLE

FOR

CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, INDIA, PHILIPPINES, ETC.

1917

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QUALITY.



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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 616.

Hongkong Office: 10A, Des Voeux Road, C. London Office: 121, Fleet Street, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 15TH MARCH, 1917.

CHINA BREAKS WITH GERMANY.

The German Minister and his staff—telegraphs our Peking Correspondent—were handed their passports at noon yesterday. In its decision to sever diplomatic relations with Germany the Chinese Parliament has evinced a remarkable degree of unanimity, the proposal being carried in the House of Representatives by 331 votes to 100, and in the Senate by 157 votes to 37. When Germany intimated her inability to abandon her policy of "unrestricted submarine warfare" in deference to China's protest, neither the threats nor cajoleries by which the intimation was accompanied proved of any avail. The KAISER's instructions to his troops on the occasion of the Boxer rebellion are probably two well remembered for his hypocritical professions of friendship to be valued very highly, and the hollowness of his promise to respect the lives and property of Chinese subjects was too apparent to deceive anybody. At the same time it must have been recognised that the chief menace which he could offer to the welfare and security of the country lay in the continued presence and unfettered liberty of his subjects. These facts seem to have been at once evident to the whole of the Cabinet, and a rupture with Germany would have taken place some days ago but for the opposition of President LI YUAN HUNG, whose experience, having been almost exclusively confined to military matters, can hardly be described as conducive to a knowledge of foreign affairs. While, however, His Excellency has been suspected of seeing the war situation through

German spectacles, he has shown himself to be perfectly ready to respect the popular wish. On his behalf it has been stated that he merely insisted that before any definite step was taken in such a grave matter as that at issue the opinion of Parliament should be ascertained. The Premier, TUN CHI-SUI, protested that, as the Cabinet was a responsible body, the President had no right to oppose its decision. The conflict arose over the refusal of the President to ratify a telegram, drafted by the Cabinet, instructing the Chinese Minister at Tokio to inform the Japanese Government that the Chinese Government had decided to sever relations with Germany immediately, and "at the proper time," enter the war on the side of the Entente. The President, it is said, complained that he had been left entirely ignorant of the course of the diplomatic negotiations, and pointed out that an undertaking to declare war without the sanction of Parliament would be unconstitutional and illegal. Thereupon the Premier tendered his resignation and left the capital. It was soon made evident, however, that the Cabinet were unanimous and that they enjoyed the confidence of Parliament. Efforts to effect a reconciliation between the President and the Premier were immediately undertaken and were eventually attended with success. Both have now had their way. Parliament has been consulted and the decision of the Cabinet has been confirmed. Unlike the United States, China is preparing to take the logical consequence of her present action, and is officially continuing the negotiations, which have already been proceeding informally, with a view to joining the Entente. There is no reason to doubt that satisfactory arrangements will be concluded. China is not likely to be unreasonable in her demands, and the Entente Powers will not be disposed to deal with her in a niggardly spirit. The alliance between China and the Entente Powers promises to be mutually advantageous despite the forebodings of Dr. SUN YAT SEN, who fears that it will be "injurious to the prestige of Great Britain in the Far East" and liable to create discord and anarchy in China, with consequent "dissension among the Entente group." No intelligent native of the Far East is likely to interpret the desire of the Entente Powers for China to join them as a confession of their "inability to cope with Germany." China's unpreparedness for active warfare is a sufficient guarantee of that. Nor need Dr. Sun disturb himself unduly about the relations between the Entente Powers, who may safely be trusted to manage their own affairs unaided. He diverts himself of all claim to be taken seriously when, referring to the Mohammedans in China, he says "to fight against their Holy Land would be a sacrilege." Even the KAISER and the Sultan of Turkey are under no such illusion as this.

The annual sports in connection with St. Paul's College take place on the Jockey Club Ground, Happy Valley, on Wednesday afternoon, the 21st inst. The Library Committee of the Helena May Institute desire to acknowledge with sincere gratitude the anonymous gift of a complete set of Ruskin—60 volumes. Those who wish to learn Chinese should send their names to the Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce as early as possible. A class for "beginners" will commence on Monday, April 2nd. The following marriages are announced to take place in the Colony shortly. Mr. William F. Ford, 39, The Terrace, Kowloon Docks, and Miss Frances K. Fenton, en route from Scotland; Mr. W. P. Seath, Taikeo Sugar Works, and Miss E. Hearl, Sea View, Gap Road, Wanchai. The annual meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, which will be held on Monday, March 26th, will be followed immediately by a special extraordinary general meeting when a proposal to add the word "British" between the words "ten" and "members" in clause six of the Rules and Regulations will be considered.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INDIA AND THE WAR.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR.—When in the very heart of Arabia Indian warriors are achieving successes, with their British comrades-in-arms, and dawning Baghdad is wrenched from Turkey, all eyes are naturally turned on India, and, in this connection, a past prophecy, foretold by a Paris patriot in 1890, will be very interesting reading to all your readers in Far Cathay. This veteran Paris politician, who, among other things, was President of the Indian National Congress, said:—

"I have no fears that English statesmanship will not ultimately respond to the call: I have unbounded faith in the living and fertilizing principles of English culture and English civilization. It may be that, at times, the prospect looks dark and gloomy, Anglo-Indian opinion may look fierce and uncompromising, but my faith is large, even in Anglo-Indians. As in the whole universe, so in individuals and communities, there is a perpetual conflict going on between the higher and lower passions and impulses of our nature. . . . They are, after all, a part and parcel of the great nation, bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh, and they must ever work along the main lines of that noble policy which Great Britain has deliberately adopted for the government of this country. When, in the inscrutable dispensation of Providence, India was assigned to the care of England, one can almost imagine that the choice was offered to her, as to Israel of old: 'Behold I have placed before you a blessing and a curse; a blessing if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, a curse if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God but go after other gods whom ye have not known.' All the forces of English life and society—moral, social, intellectual, political—are, if slowly yet steadily and irresistibly, declaring themselves for the choice which will make the connection of England and India a blessing to themselves and to the whole world for countless generations."

Truer words were never uttered; the prophecy is being fulfilled, the blessings have come to roost. This same prophet renewed his confession of faith and declared publicly in 1904:—

"I am an inveterate; I am a robust optimist like my late friend, Justice Ranade; I believe in divine guidance, through human agency; it may be the fatalism of the East, but it is an active, not a passive, fatalism, a fatalism that recognizes that the human wheels of the machinery must actively work to fulfil their appointed task. I always seek hope and consolation in the words of the poet: 'I have not made the world and He that has made it will guide.' My faith is large in time and that which shapes it to some perfect end."

"My steadfast loyalty is founded upon this rock of hope and patience. Seeking the will of Providence in dispensations rather than in revelations, seeing God's will like him, in fulfilment of events, I accept British rule as a dispensation. So wonderful is it that a little island set at one end of the world should establish itself in a far continent as different from it as could be that it would be fully not to accept it as a declaration of God's will."

The prophet has been gathered to his fathers. It is a pity he was not spared to see his prophecies fulfilled—Yours truly,

H. S. K.

Canton, March 13th.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS ON THE PEAK TRAM.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR.—I had hoped that it would be unnecessary to trespass on your valuable space further, but I feel impelled to point out to "X" that:—

(a.) A molchill to some is a mountain to others.

(b.) Class hatred is engendered by differentiating between classes and not by protesting against differentiating.

(c.) It costs a soldier (February, 1917) nearly \$10 to go to town and back from Mount Austin in the Peak car. The soldier is paid at present a "ten" which has a purchasing power of about 1/8.

(d.) A good part of our soldiers here have left prosperous businesses which are now ruined, and, as their presence here enables "X" myself and others to continue our work in peace and at profit to ourselves they should get better treatment than civilians.

(e.) In my humble opinion the Peak tramway has no right to assume, as they do by their By-law, that the civilian travellers on the car want a special reserved space—Yours faithfully,

G. TISDALL.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1917.

THE WAR.

FALL OF BAGHDAD.

RECEPTION OF THE NEWS.

CHINA AND GERMANY.

HUN MINISTER HANDED PASSPORTS.

BRITISH SUCCESSES IN FRANCE.

The Near East.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BAGHDAD.

SOME GERMAN COMMENTS.

AMSTERDAM, March 13th.
The *Rheinisch Westfälische Zeitung* states that the English have won a momentary but undeniable success, but when the Turks have been supplied with heavy artillery Baghdad will not long tolerate an Anglo-Indian garrison.

The *Kölnische Volkszeitung* says:—The British have won an indubitable success. The surrender of Kut was rightly described as a heavy blow, and it naturally follows that the fall of Baghdad wipes out the stain. It is a striking success, all the more so after the English forward move at Sinai. Although the success is transitory and does not affect the decision of the war, it is a heavy blow against Turkey, and painful for the Quadruple Alliance.

ITALIAN ENTHUSIASM.

LONDON, March 13th.
Comments from Rome state that the British Embassy was lauded with congratulations regarding Baghdad.

Many telegrams have been sent to Mr. Lloyd George, and the newspapers are most enthusiastic. They declare that Britain is even military, now the mainstay of the Entente.

DUTCH COMMENT.

AMSTERDAM, March 13th.
The Dutch newspapers are magnanimous in regarding the fall of Baghdad as finally disposing of Germany's dreams of the Berlin-Baghdad railway. They also declare that it is inconceivable that Britain will restore Mesopotamia to Turkey.

WARM WELCOME IN BAGHDAD.

CONSIDERABLE BOOTY.

LONDON, March 13th.
A Mesopotamia official message states:—We maintained close touch with the enemy to the south of Baghdad on the evening of the 10th. The enemy, at night, evacuated the entire trench line, we advancing in close contact. A general advance on both banks followed. We occupied the railway station at dawn, and then the city. The cavalry advanced in pursuit, and after a slight resistance occupied Kadhimain, taking 100 prisoners. Gun-boats took up the pursuit.

Since February 23rd, the Turks have been destroying and removing everything of value in Baghdad. Our booty, nevertheless, was considerable. The enemy abandoned 500 wounded, and we counted from 200 to 300 dead. We also took 1,000 prisoners on the left bank of the Tigris on the 10th.

The inhabitants of Baghdad warmly welcomed us.

EARLIER CABLES.

TURCO-GERMAN DIFFERENCES.

MESOPOTAMIA REVERSES.

LONDON, March 13th.
A telegram from Vevey states that Rifaat Pasha has left Geneva for Turkey, and that Bedri Bey, Governor of Constantinople, has arrived at Berlin. Both missions are connected with Turco-German differences arising out of the reverses in Mesopotamia.

GERMAN CONCERN OVER BAGHDAD.

SOME CONSOLATIONS.

AMSTERDAM, March 13th.
There is an under-current of real concern in the German comments regarding the occupation of Baghdad by the British forces.

The *Cologne Gazette* says it is a great success, and "all the bazaars in the East will resound with the news that the Germans have beaten the soldiers of Padi Shah and conquered the romantic city." It would be a mistake, adds the paper, to deprecate the importance of the success, which, nevertheless, is firstly political. The paper consoles its readers by reminding them that while the British are getting further from their main base, the Turks have approached theirs at Mosul.

FRENCH AND ITALIAN ENTHUSIASM.

LONDON, March 13th.
The comments of the French and Italian press regarding Baghdad are even more enthusiastic than the British, while neutrals are most impressed by the significance of the British victory.

INDOMITABLE BRITISH ENERGY.

PARIS, March 13th.
The Chairman of the Municipal Council, prior to the ordinary business, referred to the occupation of Baghdad, saying that Frenchmen rejoiced at this fresh proof of the indomitable British energy.

GERMANY'S DREAM ENDED.

The *Matin* anticipates that Palestine, and then Syria will fall into the hands of the British, assisted by the Arabs.

The *Temps*, *Figaro* and other papers emphasize that the glorious feat of arms has definitely ended Germany's dream of Eastern expansion, and they anticipate a speedy co-operation of the English and Russians. They describe the British advance as a veritable thunderbolt, this summing up French opinion, which is surprised at the rapidity of General Maude's march.

IS A GREAT BATTLE PENDING?

The *Temps* states that Baghdad is the greatest victory of the Entente for months.

The *Debats* says it is the first act in a great Anglo-Russian battle against the Turks.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ENEMY ABANDONS DEFENCES

BRITISH PROGRESS AND CAPTURES.

LONDON, March 14th.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, says:—Owing to our bombardment the enemy abandoned his main defences along the forward crest of the ridge westward of Bapaume, on a 3½ miles front. We drove back rearguards in this area to a depth of a mile and occupied Grevillers and Loupart Wood.

We also progressed on the east and north-east of Gommecourt on a frontage of a mile.

A raiding party reached our trenches on the south-west of Neuve Chapelle. There are a few British missing.

Hostile raids elsewhere were repulsed.

GERMANS STILL RETREATING. IMPORTANT NEWS PROBABLE.

LONDON, March 14th.
Our guns, and the steady pressure of our troops have compelled the Germans in France to resume their backward movement. The enemy have been pushed back under cover of the most hazy weather during the last twenty-four hours along a front of between 4,000 and 5,000 yards, and to a depth which Reuter's headquarters correspondent says it is at present impossible to estimate.

Our troops have advanced right through a series of strong positions, which the enemy had prepared. At Loupart Wood we seized the village of Grevillers. Great activity prevails where the Germans have been forced back. The despatch concludes:—"There should be important news available by to-morrow."

FRENCH ACTIVITY.

MUCH ARTILLERY WORK.

PARIS, March 14th.
A communique states:—In Champagne there has been reciprocal artillerying in the sectors of Maison de Champagne and Main de Massiges. The Germans, with bombs, unsuccessfully attacked Hill 185. On the left of the Meuse there has been reciprocal artillery activity. We apparently were notably effective in the region of Avocourt, Hill 403, and on the right bank and to the north-west of Bezonvaux.

EARLIER CABLES.

A BRITISH VICTORY.

HOW IRLES WAS CAPTURED.

LONDON, March 14th.
Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters gives details of the capture of Irles. These show that it was one of the most brilliant and most clever enterprises since the German retreat.

The attack was made from the west and south. The southern assault started about dawn, when the British artillery directed a perfect tornado of fire on the enemy positions. The enemy gunners promptly replied, but though the barrage lasted through the forenoon it caused little damage. The resistance, generally, was slight. A stronger point, garrisoned by about fifty Germans, put up a short obstinate fight, but when a score had been put out of action the remainder surrendered.

The success of the southern attack was facilitated by the western attack, which was faultlessly timed. It came across from the north of Irles and "pinched" out the garrison. The southerners met a brisk fusillade when approaching the village, but the enemy threw up the sponge when they found they were caught in the rear.

Irles is excellently situated for defence, being on an eminence, and its occupation strongly strengthens our position in this sector.

FRENCH FRONT.

MUCH ACTIVITY.

PARIS, March 13th.
A communique states:—The Germans, to the west of Maison de Champagne last evening, violently counter-attacked at Hill 185. Our barrage and machine-gun fire stopped the enemy dead. We maintained all our positions and took 150 prisoners last evening, including three officers.

An enemy *coup de main* in the region of Louvemont, on the left bank of the Meuse, was easily repulsed.

We made three *coups de main* last evening on the German trenches, between the Avre and the Aisne, which our fire wrecked. We also brought back prisoners. The Germans have continued to bombard Soissons.

Enemy attempts to reach our lines on the Crouy Road and in the region of Beaulenhiy, and further eastward, failed.

There has been lively artillerying in the sector of Troyon.

GERMAN WIRELESS. AN ENGLISH ATTACK.

LONDON, March 13th.
A wireless German official message states:—An English attack on a wide front to the south of Arras failed with heavy losses. There has been lively fighting in the Ancre region, and on both banks of the Meuse. Our fire turned back a French advance to the north of the Avr. We stubbornly defended Hill 185 against an attack by superior forces. The French, by sanguinary sacrifices, captured a narrow stretch on the south-western slope.

Russian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GERMAN CLAIM.

LONDON, March 14th.
A German official wireless message claims the capture of 250 prisoners at Narajowka.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMANS CLAIM CAPTURES.

LONDON, March 13th.
A German wireless official message states:—We took 223 Russians prisoners to Zloczow, on the Tarnopol railway. We also repulsed the French, who were attacking between Ochrida and Lako Prespa.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GERMAN RUTHLESSNESS.

LONDON, March 13th.
German ruthlessness at sea is further exemplified by the sinking of the Norwegian vessel *Dalmata* by a German submarine on February 11th. The Captain's wife, the officers and crew were for three days in two small open boats in mid-Atlantic suffering unspeakable hardships. One of the crew died from exposure, and three were frost-bitten. Finally, the survivors were picked up by a Danish schooner.

TORPEDOING OF THE "STORSTAD."

SOME HUN METHODS.

LONDON, March 12th.
An invisible submarine shelled the *Storstad*, the Belgian relief ship, on Thursday morning at a distance of four miles. The crew entered the boats, but returned on the submarine submerging, and were aboard when the latter reappeared and torpedoed the *Storstad*. The crew got away and then the submarine came alongside the Captain's boat and questioned regarding the cargo. The submarine refused to tow the boats, and again shelled the *Storstad* because she was not sinking fast enough. It is confirmed that an engineer died from exposure. The remainder of the crew have been landed, and these include two dead.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIAN POLITICS.

PETROGRAD, March 13th.
The sessions of the Duma and the Council of Empire have been suspended.

"YARROWDALE" AMERICANS.

A NEW RAIDER.

LONDON, March 13th.
Fifty-nine of the *Yarrowdale* Americans have arrived at Zurich. They state that the raider is named *Zig*, that it is a new 3,000 ton vessel with a speed of eighteen knots, and specially built for raiding.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT UNSATISFACTORY BULLETIN.

LONDON, March 14th.
The Duchess of Connaught passed a restless night. Broncho-pneumonia persists and the heart action is weaker. There are also complications incidental to a severe illness four years ago.

LATEST CABLES.

NATIONAL SERVICE.

SCENES IN THE COMMONS.

LONDON, March 13th.
The closure was applied in the House of Commons last evening for the first time since war began, on the occasion of the National Service Bill.

The Radical and Nationalist opposition was so vigorous that the report stage was unfinished when the debate adjourned. Major Pringle moved a new clause, providing Parliamentary control of the Director General's acts.

After the debate, in which the "servility of the House of Commons to the Prussianism of the Government" was among the epithets employed by Major Pringle's supporters, Mr. Cave intimated that Mr. Neville Chamberlain had agreed to the appointment of an Advisory Committee, and then Mr. Cave moved the closure, amidst shouts of "gag."

Major Pringle's motion was defeated by 163 votes to 87.

A Nationalist motion that the Act should not apply to Ireland was defeated by 148 votes to 78. On the re-application of the closure, a Nationalist amendment providing a separate Director General for Ireland was being debated.

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH POLITICAL CRISIS.

INDIAN QUESTIONS CAUSE DIVISIONS.

LONDON, March 13th.
The Government has issued an urgent Whip on the occasion of "a vital division" to-morrow, when Mr. Chamberlain will move a resolution approving India's war loan of £100,000,000. It is noteworthy that the motion does not refer to the increase in the cotton duties, but it is anticipated that thirty Lancashire Members of Parliament will vote against the Government. The Nationalists have not decided on their action.

The Labourites have decided that their members shall vote as they please.

The *Times* lobby correspondent states that the crisis is missing fire, as the Lancastrians are divided and the Parliamentary Free Trade Committee does not participate in the agitation.

The *Daily Chronicle* states that it is confident that Mr. Asquith's followers will not oppose the Government, thus precipitating "the calamity of a general election."

The *Daily News* lobby correspondent states that the Tariff Reformers are intriguing to force an election.

It is rumoured that Sir Frederick Cavley, (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster), Mr. Percy Illingworth (Postmaster-General) and Mr. John Walsh (Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury) are threatening to resign because they were not informed of the Government's decision to increase the duties.

In an editorial the *Daily News* states that the Government may survive to-morrow, but their authority will be fundamentally shaken.

NO LACK OF FOOD IN RUSSIA.

LONDON, March 13th.
Telegrams from Petrograd state that there is no lack of food in Russia, but a lack of transport organisation for the towns caused a decline in the supplies, especially in the capital, with consequent disquiet. But the demonstrations are unusually mild, and there is no question of a revolutionary movement.

CHINA SEVERS WITH GERMANY.

PEKING, March 13th.
The Senate, by 152 to 37 votes, approved of the severance of relations with Germany.

ANOTHER BRITISH VOTE OF CREDIT.

LONDON, March 13th.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that a supplementary vote of credit to "meet increased and unforeseen expenditure" would be moved on the 15th.

BRITISH AIR CASUALTIES. AN INTERESTING STATEMENT.

LONDON, March 13th.
In the House of Commons at question time, Mr. MacPherson stated that the average weekly British casualties in air fighting during the past six weeks was seven killed, eight wounded and four missing. He recalled that last year it was only after heavy aerial fighting at Verdun, and on the British front, that our superiority was established. Whereas at the opening of last year's operations the German concentration was before Verdun, to-day it was before the British. This move was probably connected with the German retirement, hence we must expect severe contests before we succeed in throwing the enemy aerially on the defensive.

SILVER.

LONDON, March 13th.
Silver is quoted at 36½. There is no more offering, and the market is steady.

MR. GERARD.

NEW YORK, March 14th.
Mr. Gerard has arrived at Havana. Another telegram, from Key West, states that Mr. Gerard has arrived there, and proceeds by rail to Washington.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

CHINA AND GERMANY.

GERMAN MINISTER AND STAFF HANDED PASSPORTS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

"PEKING, March 14th.

Owing to the unsatisfactory reply of the German Government to the Chinese protests against Germany's new submarine policy, and to the action of the German submarines, whereby many Chinese lives have been lost, the German Minister and his staff were handed their passports to-day at noon.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

SHANGHAI, March 14th.

At a Cabinet meeting on the 12th inst. the following points were considered:—The declaration of the time for severing relations with Germany; the regaining of German leased territory; the cancellation of German Consuls' jurisdiction; the announcement of China's reasons for the severance of relations to the neutral powers; the sending of a Note to Germany; and the preparation of passports for the German Minister and his staff.

A Mandate declaring the severance of relations with Germany has been drafted. It states that the submarine measures of Germany are a violation of International Law, that the German reply to China's Note was unsatisfactory, and, therefore, the severance of relations by China was unavoidable.

BANDMAN OPERA COMPANY.

"TINA"

The musical comedy, "Tina," was staged at the Theatre Royal by the Bandman Opera Company last night, and attracted another full "house." This was the first presentation of the piece to the Hongkong public, and it created a very favourable impression. The Company were seen at their best, all the parts being excellently filled. Miss Marjory Manners appeared in the title rôle, which eminently suited her capabilities. Her charming expressiveness, dainty dancing and sweet singing secured the admiration of all. Mr. Fred Winn, as "William Van Dam" was largely responsible for the fun, which is a feature of the piece. Other artistes worthy of mention were Mr. Leyland Hodgson, Mr. Compton Counts, Mr. Louis Cowen, Mr. Billy Rex, Miss Addie Leigh, and Miss Gracie Rosslyn. The play was splendidly staged.

To-night the Company appear in the Gaiety Theatre success, "Theodore & Co."

A MAN WHO WAS AFRAID.

HERO'S STRUGGLES IN A FIELD OF FIRE.

IN THE BARRAGE.

"Standing in front of us in the trench, some ten feet away, I saw a bearded soldier with the stripes of a sergeant, and the ribbon of the Médaille Militaire—the highest honour any French soldier, from ranking general down, can win—and the Croix de Guerre with two palms, meaning that he had been mentioned twice for conspicuous bravery in the general orders of the army. Despite his beard he was a young man, well under thirty, and he stood with a quiet air of confidence and looked at us with a certain amusement."

The psychology of fear is one of the strangest mysteries of the moment, and the story told by Mr. Fred D. Pitney in the New York Tribune of the man, described above, has an illumination entirely its own. Leon Burbeise was called to the colours at the outbreak of war, but he was soon sent home owing to feeble lungs. Suffering from an innate terror of the battlefield, he at first cherished the fact that he did not have to fight. Soon, however, Leon grew restless. His shame became torture and finally he volunteered. "God, what a struggle that was!" I walked with him to the trench, and he was running off me. For a year I had dreamed nightly of the shells. I had heard them. They had fallen around me. I had been wounded. I had felt the impact of the steel on my yielding flesh. For a year I had spent my days trying to hide my terror from my wife, my friends, and my neighbours. I went at last, because I could not stand the torture of failing to do my duty. No one else knew. They sent me to Verdun. It was in the very midst of the German attack on the left bank of the Meuse. I had been drafted into a veteran regiment, with a lot of others to help fill up the gaps, and I joined just in time to go in the front line.

UNABLE TO SPEAK.

"Everything I did was mechanical. We were called before daylight. We had a cup of coffee; we were armed along the road. I had managed it up to then without giving myself away. True, I talked little to my comrades, and probably that saved me. But the morning we marched to the front! What saved me then I don't know, except possibly because I said nothing. I was unable to speak. I was numb with fear. I was sick. My stomach turned. I walked with my head down, and my feet dragged like great weights. We had been marching nearly two hours when I heard my first shell. There was a lag, then a white, smoke, place in the air. It was a new sound, and it was so strange to me that I raised my head for the first time since we started on the march. The man next to me laughed."

"A shell," he said.

"I looked all around me. I tried to stop to see the path of that queer white, but the man behind me prodded me on. Several of them laughed."

"You will hear plenty more," they said.

They thought I was eager for them. It was as though I was studying some other man. There was the man who was afraid and knew it, and the man who watched to see how afraid I was. I tried to follow the course of every shell. My head was continually twisting. I jumped at every explosion. I could not control the muscles of my neck and shoulders. But I stopped out of the line and walked a little way into the field, towards the shells. I wanted to see if I could do it. I got close enough so that I could hear a piece of shell whizz past my ear. Then I waited for another piece. It was a hard job, but I waited, leaning on my rifle and looking at the ground a little way in front of me, where the last shell had exploded. If I had moved my eyes from that spot I could not have stayed. Not until the third one came did I hear another piece of shell. The others had struck too far to one side.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS.

"There was the time when it became necessary to take a message from our support trenches to our advanced lines in the Bois des Corbeaux. There was a barrage to be crossed, and volunteers were called for. I was chosen."

Have you ever seen an artillery barrage? You can walk up to it and draw a line with a surveyor's chain on the ground, marking exactly the limit, where the shells fall, and all beyond that line will be a mass of boiling water, like waves in a storm, dashing on a rocky coast. I came within fifty yards of such a barrage and stopped to watch it and to mark out a path. But no path was possible. No sooner was one chosen than it was wiped out, all the little landmarks gone, the whole face of the ground changed by a new rain of shells. My heart sank. My stomach went suddenly empty. I knew that I had reached the limit beyond which I could not go. I had found the point where my fear was greater than my duty. I lay flat down on the earth. I do not know how long I lay. I thought of nothing. There was only a horrible blank fear."

Then I found that unconsciously I was digging my fingers into the ground, clutching the roots of grass, and dragging myself into the barrage. I might as well have been dragging myself the other way, but I had laid down with my face towards my duty."

DASHED FORWARD.

"When I made that discovery I got to my feet and stood upright for a second, not more, only time to say, 'I must not give myself time to think,' and dashed forward into the exploding shells. I floundered blindly into the raw earth and fell again on my face."

This time my mind was working. There was only one thing for me to do, and I knew it. That was to go on. I crawled forward on my hands and knees. I could not stand; it would be certain death. Twenty times I was knocked flat, my mind going, by the explosion of a shell almost beside me, but I crawled on. I did not know if I had been hit. I thought I had. Two hundred yards I crawled through the barrage and then reached my knees. They gave me the Médaille Militaire for that."

Leon was last seen in Paris. His left sleeve was pinned across his breast, and

(Continued at foot of next column.)

AN ANGLO-AMERICAN ENTENTE.

WHAT AMERICANS HAVE DONE FOR THE CAUSE OF THE ALLIES.

Writing to the Daily Chronicle, Mr. John Macfield says:—

Will you allow me to back Mr. Whelpley's plea for friendship with the United States by a brief account of what America has done since the war began, and is now doing, for the cause of the Allies?

It is sometimes said, especially by Americans in the belligerent countries, that America should have entered the war upon the side of the Allies. But this course, though it may seem natural to many here, now in the fever of the war, must seem less obvious four, five, or even six thousand miles away, across an ocean and a continent. At those great distances from any part of the war, the mind of a nation, as a whole, cannot grasp the war, and the passion of a nation, as a whole, cannot be roused by it. Besides this, the tradition of the nation, always a strong thing in a young community, is against all entanglement in European affairs.

But though America has not entered the war (and should we enter the war if, say, United States America suddenly ignored the Monroe Doctrine, tore up all existing treaties, and overwhelmed Colombia with fire and rapel), the most thoughtful and feeling of her people have helped our cause with a persistent largeness of generous effort. By their help the funds given for the relief of Belgium and Serbia are administered and applied, within the enemy lines, to the salvation of millions of lives. By their efforts the condition of British prisoners of war in the hands of the enemy, in Central Europe and in Turkey, is made endurable. By their efforts many thousands of our Allies have been healed, helped, and comforted with every circumstance of kindness.

It is well known that some thousands of generous young Americans are serving in our Canadian regiments; others, like Mr. Hall, have enlisted in our own Army; others (certainly many) have enlisted in the French Foreign Legion. Among these latter was the brilliant young poet, Alan Seeger, who has since given his life for France. Ever since the war began some hundreds of the finest young men in America, the very pick and flower of the graduates and undergraduates of the universities, have been serving under fire with the French armies in the Field Service sections of the American Ambulance, a devoted service, in which two of their number have been killed, many maimed, and many decorated. The courage and devotion of these young men have been praised repeatedly in the French Army and Divisional Orders. Very nearly half the members of their company have won either the military medal or the cross of war.

HOSPITAL WORK IN FRANCE.

Apart from this service, there are other American institutions now in France for the healing and helping of wounded men, French and English. There is the Harvard Unit serving with the British Army under the orders of the R.A.M.C. There is the American Ambulance in the Lyceum Pasteur at Neuilly, near Paris. This ambulance, or military hospital, has been open since September, 1914, to French and British soldiers. It is one of the most beautiful and most thorough of the many large military hospitals now in France. It is wholly the work of American and Franco-American lovers of France. Many of the most famous American surgeons have given their services to its different departments, and have done notable work, especially in facial and dental surgery, face restoration, and in the treatment of gaseous gangrene. This hospital fills a large house, an annex to Jullien, not far from Paris, and several convalescent homes, mostly in the care of sisters of charity, in the district of St. Cloud.

Besides these hospitals there are several others, at Versailles, Limoges, and near Compiègne, managed by Americans bound to France by long and tender associations. There are others at Valéry-en-Caux, at Passy par Veron, and at Nice. At Ris Orange an English hospital has a most noteworthy American surgical staff. In the earlier stages of the war there were other American hospitals at Pau and at Aix-les-Bains, but these have now been discontinued. In this country Americans have founded and now support at least three hospitals for soldiers of our own Armies.

There are now in France many other expressions of American sympathy for the cause of the Allies. There are in Paris alone several distributing centres for the gifts of goods, comforts, and hospital equipment which reach France from America daily. One of these centres (in the Alcazar d'Été) in the depot of the American Fund for French Wounded; another is the truly great business organisation of the American Clearing House, which is now a clearing and delivery business as big as the clothing house of a department store.

Among other charitable works begun and maintained in France by Americans since the beginning of the war are some private workshops where poor women may earn a living by sewing; some church schools and orphanages for destitute children; a big depot for the issue of clothing to refugees; an association for rebuilding the devastated districts; a society for supplying delicacies to the severely wounded; a society for providing French soldiers with "marraines," and an excellent studio and workshop, imagined, planned, and conducted by an American lady, for the invention, manufacture and supply of surgical apparatus for the extension and flexion of wounded limbs.

As this makes a fair record for a neutral country, and may not be well known here, where there are fewer American institutions than in France, the land bound to America by long traditions of friendship, it may be of interest to your readers.

above it were his three medals, from left to right the Croix de Guerre, now with three palms; the Médaille Militaire; and the Legion d'Honneur. He was waiting for the train to take him home to the centre of France, to his wife and boy. "I can tell them how that I was afraid," he said.—Daily Express.

WASTED SHIPPING.

BAD CONDITIONS AT THE PORTS.

RAILWAYS AND DELAY.

(FROM "THE TIMES" SHIPPING CORRESPONDENT.)

Of the many measures which are now being adopted by the shipping authorities to cope with the present war conditions some may be described as of a showy type and some as commonplace. There is need for all. Ranking high among the first class is new construction. It may not be expedient at the moment to describe all that is being done in this direction; possibly one day the public will be well satisfied with the results. It is clear, however, that among those who are now directing the mercantile marine affairs of the nation there is imagination; practical knowledge of the highest order, both in respect of steamship management and construction; and there is driving force. Possibilities in all directions are being plucked, not from any craven fear of what the enemy is doing or may do, but from a determination to back the Navy and Army and serve the people to the fullest possible extent by an efficient utilization of the mobilized shipping and ship-building resources of the country. As one little instance of the steps which are now being taken to speed up building it is understood that an effort is being made to introduce in the shipyards a system of payments by results as an incentive to the output of the best work.

LABOUR DIFFICULTIES.

Among the more commonplace problems quite one of the first is the question of the quicker "turn-round" of ships at the ports. Unfortunately there can be no doubt that the conditions at several of the leading ports in this country are bad. A case has just occurred in which a ship has already been nearly a month discharging her cargo at Liverpool, whereas in normal times the whole should have been discharged within a few days and the ship should have proceeded to sea again. Part of the cargo consisted of fairly light goods; the rest was heavy material. There was comparatively little difficulty in getting the light stuff unloaded, but the greatest difficulty in getting out the heavy cargo. Labourers refused to work on the heavy goods, and went away to seek lighter work, which was easily found. One of two gangs of men which went away to dinner only 50 per cent. returned to do an afternoon's work. This ship is still wasting her time in port.

CONGESTION ON THE RAILWAYS.

While part of the difficulties at the ports is due to lack of efficient labour, at the docks it is clearly is not the whole cause of the trouble. Some relief to the dock labour question has been given by the creation of the transport workers' battalions, which are now being raised to 10,000 men. It is stated that a very serious cause of delay at present is to be found in the state of the railways. Goods are not being removed from the docks by the railways as they ought to be, congestion is caused, and ships are consequently kept long in port. This difficulty on the railways is attributed largely also to the shortage of labour. The railway companies declare that they are quite unable to cope with the traffic owing to the lack of an adequate supply of employees; and all kinds of facilities have been withdrawn. It is now becoming a matter for consideration whether the railway companies should not be given special assistance. The shipping companies and dock authorities are now assisted in case of emergency by the mobile khaki battalions. May it not be desirable to give the railway companies similar assistance in the form of railway khaki battalions?

LACK OF COMMERCIAL COMPETITION.

There is also a further matter for investigation. The railways are certainly short of labour, but it is established that all the officials are putting their very best efforts into the solution of the present problems. The railways are now Government-controlled institutions, and competition has diminished where it has not vanished. It seems to be a question whether quite the same amount of thought and work is being put into the efficient management of the companies as in the days before the war when the lines were keenly competing against each other. The question which has been raised of a slackening of effort directly in consequence of the nationalization of the railways is a serious one, and evidently deserves inquiry. Only a railway man can speak with authority upon it. Many of the railway officials do not doubt that the old competition of the pre-war days has been or should have been succeeded by a better competition—namely, a competition among the companies to serve best the national interest. The whole matter of dealing with the cargoes passing through the ports is vitally important, since it is known that the carrying capacity of the ships could be enormously increased by giving quicker dispatch. There are signs in all directions that no effort is being spared by the shipping authorities to use all tonnage to the utmost possible extent. Similar signs that the railway authorities are giving as much attention to their side of the problem would be welcome. No one with even the most superficial knowledge of the subject can doubt the existence of very great difficulties under which the railways must now be working. But the public is entitled to know if the railways are now doing what remains to them with the utmost efficiency.

SUCCESS OF THE TRANSPORT WORKERS' BATTALION.

The Transport Workers' Battalion, the mobile military body for civilian work, was the subject of considerable suspicion among organized dockers when it was first formed, has completely justified itself. There are in the London dock area some 100,000 men belonging to the battalion. The Transport Workers' Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment, is a proper title—working as deal porters, alongside civilians, and although in efficiency they are not equal to men who have spent their lives at this work, their services are warmly appreciated by the Port of London Authority.

The men, it should be clearly understood, are soldiers, subject to military discipline. (Continued at foot of next column.)

GEN. SMUTS' TRIBUTE TO HIS TROOPS.

SOUTH AFRICA PROUD OF HER SONS.

General Smuts, who was accompanied by General Van Doven and by General Collyer, his Chief of Staff, received a public welcome on his arrival at Pretoria on January 26th. Accompanied by a guard of honour formed of South African recruits for the Overseas Brigade, he drove through the decorated streets to the amphitheatre of the Union buildings, which was thronged.

General Smuts, when he rose to speak, was received with the utmost enthusiasm. He expressed his appreciation at being given such a wonderful welcome in phlegmatic Pretoria, and dwelt on the diversity of the forces which he had commanded in East Africa—Imperial, Indian, native African, and South African. He had been surprised beyond measure at the splendid co-operation of these forces. The difficulties of the campaign had been far greater than had been anticipated. Young South Africans at the outset had thought they could easily conquer the black German troops, but they soon revised that opinion. His fellow-officers declared they had never fought against better or braver troops. East Africa, General Smuts went on to say, was one of the most glorious countries on which he had set eyes, but also the most difficult and dangerous, with incomparable mountains, forests and swamps. If the Imperial Government had known what they were doing in sending an army to conquer it, they would have thought twice, but the work had been done. He had not had the luck to see the final surrender of the brave German troops, but the back of their resistance had been broken. The enemy had now been driven into a small part of the country with his original army reduced to below one-third and his moral deteriorating owing to losses incurred during his retreats. The task left to General Hoskins would be ably discharged, and the end was not far off.

South Africa might always be proud of her sons. They had contributed the main share in a campaign which, perhaps, was the hardest in the history of the world. Yet what gave him the greatest pleasure was that these young boys were gentlemen. "I have never seen better behaved troops in my life," General Smuts proceeded, "than the young gentlemen who fought under me in East Africa, and if you want a certificate of character for them go to the numerous German women and children scattered over that barbarous country. Ask them what they think of South Africans. They will tell you." (Prolonged cheers.)

As regarded the future, General Smuts asserted that South Africa must do her duty—the rest could be left to Providence and all would come right in the end. He had departed from East Africa with feelings of great disappointment. It was very hard when so near the end not to be allowed to enter the promised land, but his Ministerial colleagues thought it was his duty to go to the War Conference. He felt that mankind was in a grave crisis, and that even South Africa might be able to contribute its small mite which might yield important results.

BIG AMERICAN GIFT FOR BELGIAN RELIEF.

In response to an appeal by Mr. Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium, 500 members of the Rocky Mountain Club of New York, composed of the principal mining men of the Far West, have decided to forgo the building of a club house and hand over \$200,000—the estimated cost of the building—to Mr. Hoover for the purposes of Belgian relief.

discipline and directed by their own officers. They are billeted in private houses near the docks and are paid at the "contract" or recognized trade union rates for the work they do. The battalion was recruited largely from men who were dockers before they joined the Army and were not fit for general service. Most of these now employed in the London docks come from the North of England, and their experience has been in the handling of pit timber rather than of deal planks. The task of deal porting was therefore new to them. It comprises the sorting and stowing of planks of various sizes and qualities, which have been unloaded on the quays or into barges from the timber ships, and this involves the carrying of heavy loads along narrow alleys planks spanning trestles anything from 6ft. to 20ft. At first, owing to the strangeness of the work, the men were slower than the expert, and their earnings were much smaller than the average; but they threw themselves into the task with good will and determination, and in a few weeks they have become much more efficient.

The battalion is a mobile one, but its services are available only where there is an undoubted scarcity of labour, and it is necessary for employers to satisfy local committees, consisting of representatives of the Admiralty, War Office, Port Authorities and labour, of the reality of the need before their applications can go forward to the Central Port and Transit Executive Committee.

Action has been given for the formation of more battalions on the same lines. As already explained, these battalions will consist of soldiers, and will be an entirely different footing from the Dockers' Battalion of Liverpool. That body consists entirely of civilians, who must be members of the National Union of Dock Labourers, and although they wear a khaki uniform, they are in no sense under military discipline.

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HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for First Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in staterooms and Saloons and Excellent cuisine.

FOR

SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW
AND RETURN.

(Occupying 9 to 10 Days).

"HAITAN" ... | Capt. A. E. Hodgins ... | THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 11 A.M.

"HAIFONG" ... | Capt. J. W. Evans ... | FRIDAY, 23rd Mar., at 11 A.M.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Hake Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to—

DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & CO.,
General Managers.

BRITISH INDIA S. N. CO., LTD.**APCAR LINE.**

REGULAR SERVICE BETWEEN

CALCUTTA STRAITS, SHANGHAI AND JAPAN PORTS.

EASTWARD

WESTWARD

The above Steamers have excellent Saloon accommodation for Passengers and are fitted with all modern conveniences and carry a duly qualified surgeon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

P. & O. S. N. CO.**ROYAL MAIL SERVICE**

UNDER CONTRACT WITH HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

TAKING PASSENGERS AND CARGO TO

STRAITS, COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, &c.

Steamer	Leave Hong Kong	Connecting Mail	Due at Marseilles	Due at London
COLOMBO	Noon	Str. from Colombo	1817	1917

When Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO.

Accommodation in the connecting Steamer from COLOMBO is definitely reserved in Hongkong at the time of Booking.

On the Australian Route Tickets interchangeable with Orient's Line.

SAILINGS DIRECT TO

SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

S.S.

Leave Hong Kong About

Passengers may travel by Railway in Japan between Ports of Call free of charge.

Return Tickets are available by Messageries Maritimes Company.

INTERMEDIATE STEAMERS

(Non-Transshipment)

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MAIL STEAMERS, WILL LEAVE DIRECT FOR

MARSEILLES AND LONDON.

Calling at SINGAPORE, PORT SWETENHAM, PENANG, COLOMBO AND PORT SAID.

CARRYING 1st and 2nd SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

PROPOSED SAILINGS:

STEAMERS.	Leave Hong Kong about	Leave Suez about	Due at Marseilles, if calling about	Due London about
The Intermediate	Service is	Temporarily	Suspended.	

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge and each Berth furnished with an Electric Reading Lamp.

Round-the-World Tickets and Through Tickets to New York in connection with the Principal Mail Lines.

Return Tickets at fare and a half available to Europe for Two Years; or to Intermediate Ports for Six Months.

Owing to the War in Europe Steamers and Sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents or advice.

Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

For Further Information, Passage Fare, Freight, Handbooks, Dates of Sailing, etc., apply to

E. V. D. PARR,
Superintendent.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

LONDON VIA SINGAPORE, MALACCA, PENANG, COLOMBO, DELAGOA BAY, CAPE TOWN and MADEIRA.

VICTORIA, B.O. and SEATTLE (SHIDZUOKA MARU) (WEDDAY, 23rd Mar., at Noon)
via SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE
NAGATA and YOKOHAMA ... | S AWA MARU (TUESDAY, 1st May, at Noon)
Capt. H. Yachi

SYDNEY and MELBOURNE via MANILA, BAMBANGA THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE & BRISBANE.

CALCUTTA via SINGAPORE, PENANG and RANGOON.

BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA and COLOMBO.

MOJI and KOBE ...

NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA ... | NIKKO MARU (FRIDAY, 16th Mar., at 10 A.M.)
Capt. Takeda

SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA ... | FUSHIMI MARU (THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 10 A.M.)
Capt. Iriawa

YOKOHAMA ... | SHIRANO MARU (FRIDAY, 23rd Mar., at 11 A.M.)
Capt. H. Fraser

EASTBOUND NEW YORK LINE

VIA PANAMA CANAL.

(CARGO ONLY).

NEW YORK via MANILA, SAN FRANCISCO, PANAMA and COLON.

For Further Information, apply to

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA,
N. M. S. Manager.

TELEPHONE Nos 232 and 233

TOYO KISEN KAISHA.**SAN FRANCISCO LINE.**

VIA SHANGHAI, MANILA, THE INLAND SEA.

JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to Change Without Notice.

Steamer	Tons and Speed	Leave Hongkong
NIPPON MARU	11,000 — 15 knots	MON., 26th Mar.
SHUNYO MARU	22,000 — 21 knots	MON., 2nd April.
PERSIA MARU	9,000 — 14 knots	MON., 16th April.
KORRA MARU	13,000 — 19 knots	SATUR., 28th April.
SIBERIA MARU	13,000 — 18 knots	SATUR., 12th May.
TENYO MARU	23,000 — 21 knots	WED., 25th May.

FIRST CLASS TO LONDON G\$348 (£71.10.0) RETURN G\$609 (£122).
" " " SAN FRANCISCO G\$250 " " G\$437.50.

Passengers purchasing Trans-Pacific Return Tickets have the option of rebooking from Vancouver by Steamers of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO. SPECIAL RATES given to NAVAL and MILITARY CIVIL SERVANTS MISSIONARIES, etc. ROUND THE WORLD Tickets issued in connection with all the Principal Mail Lines and Trans-Siberian Railway. Passengers may Travel by Railway between Ports of Call in Japan free of charge.

SOUTH AMERICA LINE.

For JAPANIPORTS, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, SALINA CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, ARIKA, IQUIQUE and VALPARAISO.

TRANS-ANDRAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

For Full Particulars as to Passage and Freight, apply to—

T. DAIGO, Agent,
King's Building.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

SERVICE TO AND FROM JAPAN VIA SHANGHAI
SERVICE TO AND FROM EUROPE

Ports of call:—Yokohama, Kobe, Shanghai, Hongkong, Haiphong, Tourane, Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Djibouti, Suez, Port Said, Marseilles.

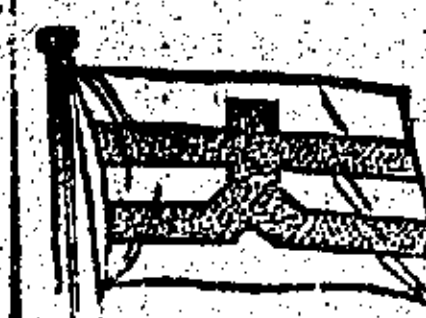
For SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA ...

ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.
Return Tickets to Europe available two years.
Return Tickets to Intermediate Ports available six months.

For full particulars regarding sailings, apply to

TELEPHONE 740.

P. THOMAS, Agent,
Queen's Building.

**O. S. K. OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.**

REGULAR SERVICES, PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG
(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

North American Line. FOR VICTORIA, SEATTLE AND TACOMA; via SHANGHAI, MANILA, NAGASAKI, MOJI, KOBE, AND YOKOHAMA.

"BURMA MARU" ... THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 2 P.M.
"MEXICO MARU" ... SATURDAY, 31st Mar., at 3 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains a regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Puget Sound ports touching at intermediate ports in Japan. Overland cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connections are made at Puget Sound ports with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every three months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, calling at Auckland, N.Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

BOMBAY LINE—Fortnightly service for Bombay calling at Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, and Colombo. At present this line's steamers maintain cargo only.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Java ports calling at Manila, Suidakan and Macassar. Booking for passengers and cargo to the ports.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS REGARDING PASSENGER OR FREIGHT APPLY AT OFFICE.

FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Anping, Takao, via Swatow and Amoy.

"SOSHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 15th Mar., at 8 A.M.
"AMAKUSA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 13th Mar., at Noon.

These Formosan Lines will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 76 will be used.

For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to—

H. YAMAUCHI, Manager,
No. 1, Queen's Building.

TEL. Nos. 744 and 745.

THE EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

MAIL SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

All Steamers fitted with wireless telegraphy.
The above Steamers are fitted with Refrigerating Machinery ensuring a plentiful supply of Ice, Fresh Provisions, etc., and are lighted throughout with Electricity. All State-rooms have Electric Fans. A duly qualified Doctor and Stewards are on board.

For further particulars, apply to

W. B. LIVINGSTON & CO.
Agents.

POST OFFICE - NOTICE.

The public are informed that the undermentioned articles are prohibited from importation into the United Kingdom either by letter post or by parcel post:

Gold manufactured or unmanufactured including Gold Coin and articles consisting partly of or containing gold;
All manufactures of Silver other than Silver Watches and Silver Watch Cases; Jewellery of any description.

Letters and Parcels containing such articles cannot therefore be accepted for transmission by the Post Office.

The new regulations adopted by the French Customs insist that senders of parcels addressed to France, Corsica and Algeria must fill in the columns of the regular Customs Declaration particularly and exactly, omitting none of the headings comprised therein.

It is furthermore absolutely necessary to show in the aforesaid declaration:

(1) The full name and address of the addressee.

(2) A Statement as to whether the contents are intended for State supplies or not.

Particulars of outgoing and incoming Mails, other than those shown below, will not be advertised in future.

The Post Office will forward all correspondence posted by the fastest routes.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Liberia, Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILS OUTWARD.

For	ON WEEK-DAYS	ON SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
Tai O ...	5.00 P.M.	—
Tai Po ...	10.00 A.M.	9.30 A.M.
Cheung Chow Shataukok, Shatin and Sheungshui Aberdeen, Antau, Ping Shan, Sai Kung Santui, Stanley	2.00 P.M. 4.00 P.M. 4.30 P.M.	—
Canton Samshui and Wanchow	7.30 A.M. Regia. 5.00 P.M. Letters 6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Macao	7.15 A.M. 1.30 P.M. 6.00 P.M.	9.00 A.M.
Kongmoon	6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Namtau and Samsoi	6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Bhamchun	10.00 A.M. 4.00 P.M.	9.00 A.M.

from Sheungwan Western Branch P.O.

For	ON WEEK-DAYS	ON SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
Macao	7.30 A.M. 1.30 P.M. 6.00 P.M.	9.30 A.M. 7.30 A.M. 9.30 P.M.
Canton	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Tai Ping Tung	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Shak Ki	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Kongmoon	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kauchook	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kaukong	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.

In the case of Mails closing before 9 a.m. Registration closes at 5 o'clock on the previous evening.

WM. C. JACK & CO., LTD.,
14, DES VŒUX ROAD, HONGKONG.

ELECTRO-PLATING AND REPAIR WORKSHOPS:
OBSERVATION POINT, WANCHAI.

The Electro Plating Works laid down some years ago have proved a distinct success, both in the high quality of work expeditiously turned out and also in the fact that our clients are saved considerable delay and HEAVY EXPENSE in sending home tarnished metal ware for replating.

This VARIABLE and DAMP CLIMATE will cause both silver and electro-plated metal to tarnish, therefore why allow such eyesores, when it is possible to make equal to new at small cost?

The Workshop Plant has recently been considerably enlarged with additional facilities for BRONZING, ANTIQUE COPPER, OXYLIZED SILVER and other fancy finishes.

SHIPS' FITTINGS.

It is hardly necessary to state on the great convenience to shipping firms, in the knowledge that Saloon Cabin or Deck Fittings, dinner services, etc., can be made equal to new in the shortest time at reasonable cost.

HOUSE AND SHOP FITTINGS.

Brass Bedsteads, Ornaments, Shop Racks and Fittings, etc., all need attention in the course of time, and the benefits of local remedy again appeal strongly.

GOLF CLUBS.

Cleaned and burnished on the shortest notice.

OFFICERS' SWORDS.

Polished and Plated.

PRINTING & BINDING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION EXECUTED AT THE OFFICES
OF THE

"HONGKONG DAILY PRESS,"

WHICH ARE REplete WITH ALL THE LATEST AND MOST UP-TO-DATE
APPLIANCES FOR THE PROMPT PRODUCTION OF

HIGH-CLASS WORK

10A DES VŒUX ROAD, HONGKONG.

COMMERCIAL.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

March 14th.	
On LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/33
Bank Bill, on demand	2/34
Bank Bill, at 30 days' sight	2/34
Bank Bill, at 4 months' sight	2/44
Credit, at 4 months' sight	2/44
Documentary Bill, at 4 months' sight	2/44
On PARIS.—	
Bank Bill, on demand	22 1/2
Credit, at 4 months' sight	33 1/2
On NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bill, on demand	56 1/2
Credit, at 60 days' sight	—
On BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	—
Bank Bill, on demand	—
On CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	—
Bank Bill, on demand	—
On SHANGHAI.—	
Bank Bill, at sight	—
Private, 30 days' sight	107 1/2
On YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand—Paces	110
On MANILA.—	
On demand—Paces	98 1/2
On BATAVIA.—	
On demand	114 1/2
On HATPHONG.—	
On demand	3 1/2 p.m.
On SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p.m.
On BANGKOK.—	
On demand	6 1/2
SOYERSON, Bank's Buying Rate	8 1/2 p.
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per test	48.85
BAS SILVER, per oz.	35 1/2

SUBSIDIARY COIN.

	per cent
Hongkong, 20 cents, pieces	\$0.00 Premium.
Hongkong, 10 "	0.02
Canton, 20 "	\$8.45 discount.
Canton, 10 "	\$8.50

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 14th MARCH, 1917.

STOCKS.	PAID UP VALUE.	OFFICIAL QUOTATION 10.30 A.M.	CLOSING QUOTATION.	LAST DIVIDEND.
BANKS.				
Hongkong and Shanghai	\$125	\$67 1/2, sales		2 1/2 15/ for 1916
INSURANCES.				
Cantons	\$50	\$370		\$25 for 1914
China Fire	\$20	\$153		\$9 for 1914
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$382 1/2, buy.		\$27 for 1914
North China	\$25	Tls. 150		27 1/2 for 1915
Union	\$100	\$890, sales		\$60 for 1914
Yangtze	\$50	\$235		\$18 for 1914
SHIPPING.				
Douglas S.S. Co.	\$50	\$99, buyers	\$100, buyers	\$14 for year ending 31-12-15
Canton Steamboats	\$15	\$193, sellers		3/ int. for 1916
Indo-China Pref.	\$25	\$25, sellers		10/ int. for 1916
Do. Def.	\$25	\$25, sellers		\$2.10 for year ending 30-4-16
Star Ferry Co.	\$10	\$33		\$12 for 1915
RAFFIA.				
China Sugars	\$180	\$121, buy.	\$121 1/2, buy.	Pa. 5 for 1916
Malayan Sugars	\$30	\$33, sales		\$4 and bonus of \$2 for 1916
DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.				
Kowloon Wharf Co.	\$50	\$51		\$23 1/2 int. for 1916
H. and W. Dock Co.	\$50	\$126, buyers		Tls. 7 1/2 for year ending 30-4-16
Shanghai Docks	Tls. 190	Tls. 81 1/2, buy.		
LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.				
Central Estates	\$100	\$82		\$7 for 1916
Hongkong Hotels	\$50	\$102		\$8 for 1 year 37 for 1916
Hongkong Land	\$100	\$81, sellers		50 cents for 1916
Humphreys Estates	\$10	\$10		\$2 for 1916
Kowloon Land	\$30	\$33, buyers		\$5.25 for 1916
West Point	\$50	\$69, buyers		
COAL.				
Langkate	\$10	Tls. 181, sel.		Tls. 1 for year ending 31-10-15
Shells	\$1	103/-		2/ int. account 1916
Ural Caspian	\$1	28/-		0 1/2 for 1915/16
MINING.				
Kailash	\$1	36/-		1/ int. act. year ending 30-6-15
Rails	\$1	\$2.35		None since 1910
Tronoh	\$1	30/-		4/ int. account 1916
COTTON MILLS.				
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 140, buy		Tls. 9 for year ending 31-10-15
Kung Yik	Tls. 10	Tls. 121, buy.		T. 0.80 for year ending 30-11-16
Shanghai	Tls. 50	Tls. 117, buy.		Tls. 6 for year ending 30-8-16
Yangtze	Tls. 5	Tls. 5		NH for 1915
MISCELLANEOUS.				
China Borneo	\$12	\$3, buyers		70 cents for 1915
China Lights	\$5	\$470, buy.		None since 1908
China Provident	\$10	\$8.10, sellers		70 cents for 1916
Dairy Farms	\$5	\$3		\$3 for year ending 31-7-16
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$11.35, buy		60 cents for 1915
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$49		\$2.25 for year ending 29-2-16
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$100		\$2 int. account 1916
Hongkong Ropes	\$10	\$29, xdiv. sel.		\$2 and bonus of \$1 for 1916
Hongkong Steels	\$10	\$10		None for year ending 31-5-16
Hongkong Trams	\$1	\$7.10, buy.		Int. 7 1/2 account 1916
Peak Trams Old	\$1	\$1		7 1/2 for year ending 31-5-16
Do. New	\$1	\$1		Int. 7 1/2 account 1916
Steam Landries	\$1	\$31		25 cents for year ending 31-5-16
Union Waterworks	\$10	\$16, buyers		\$1.25 for 1916
Watson & Co.	\$10	\$62, buyers		70 cents for 1915
Wm. Powell, Limited	\$7	\$9		None since 1914

RUBBERS (Singapore Currency)	PAID UP VALUE.	YEAR ENDS.	LATEST QUOTATION.	DIVIDEND FOR LAST YEAR.	INT. DIV. TO DATE.
Alor Gajahs	\$1	Sept.	\$4.00	65 p. c.	—
Ayer Panas	\$1	Jan.	\$11.50	35 p. c.	10 p. c.
Chempu	\$1	Oct.	\$2.35	30 p. c.	—
Kodah	\$1	Apr.	\$4.00	42 1/2 p. c.	20 p. c.
Kempas	\$1	June	\$8.35	40 p. c.	15 p. c.
Malaka Pinda	\$1	Aug.	\$2.45	30 p. c.	—
Malakoff	\$1	Dec.	\$4.50	35 p. c.	10 p. c.
New Serendah	\$1	Dec.	\$4.40	25 p. c.	—
Sandayoff	\$1	Jan.	\$5.50	25 p. c.	12 1/2 p. c.
Tapih	\$1	Dec.	\$23.00	25 p. c.	20 p. c.
Plantation Rubber in London			3 1/2		

VERNON & SMYTH, Share Brokers.

BEFORE LEAVING FOR HOME
ON A HOLIDAY

ORDER THE

"HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS"

TO BE SENT TO YOU, AND SO

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE FAR EAST.

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FULLY RECORDED.

INCLUDING THE MOVEMENTS OF THE LOCAL MARKET.

24 PAGES! 24 PAGES! 24 PAGES!

HONGKONG'S FAVOURITE

VIRGINIA CIGARETTE.

EMBASSY No. 77,



HAND-MADE FROM SPECIALLY
SELECTED LEAF.

BANKS

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital ... \$15,000,000
Reserve Funds ... \$15,000,000
Sterling ... \$15,000,000
Silver ... \$15,000,000

Reserve Liability of Proprietors: \$15,000,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
S. H. DODWELL, Esq.—Chairman.
J. A. PLUMMER, Esq.—Deputy Chairman.
Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton, Esq. | E. V. D. Parr, Esq.
G. T. M. Edkins, Esq. | W. L. Pattenden, Esq.
C. S. Gubbay, Esq. | Hon. Mr. E. Shellim.
Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—N. J. STABB, Esq.

MANAGER:
Shanghai—A. G. STEPHENS, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS:
LONDON COUNTY AND WESTMINSTER BANK, LIMITED.

HONGKONG INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of Two per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS.
For 3 months 2 1/2 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 3 " " "
" 12 " 4 " " "

N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 26th February, 1917.

THE BANK OF CHINA GOVERNMENT BANK.

(SPECIALLY AUTHORIZED BY PRESIDENTIAL MANDATE OF 15th APRIL, 1913.)

Authorized Capital ... \$60,000,000
Paid-up Capital ... \$10,000,000

HEAD OFFICE:—PEKING.

BRANCHES AND SUB-BRANCHES.
SHANGHAI: Nanking, Chinkiang, Yangchow, Wusih, Wuhu, Anshing, Tatung, Tientsin, Soochow, Hankow, Shashi, Ichang, Nanchang, Tientsin, Peking, Tongshan, Luoshan, Tsinghsien, Haining, Tai, HANGCHOW: Wenhoo, Shaohsin, Chinkia, Lanohi, Huohow, Ningpo, KATZING: Changshai, Sinyang, Lohi, Cheukou, TAIWAN: Chownan, Tushien, Linohi, Lintang, Taitan, Taitan, Haining, Chefoo, Tsingtao, TAITUAN: Yuncheng, FOOCHOW, CHANGCHUN: Kirin, Moukden, Newchwang, Dairen, Harbin, Tientsin, Tientsin, Chinkow, Anlung, CANTON, KUNMING, PEKING, Kuchia's Suiyuan, etc., etc.

CANTON BRANCH.
Interest allowed on current accounts and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application. Every description of Banking business transacted. Loans granted on approved securities. Special facilities for Home Exchange.

Hongkong 13th October, 1914. [182]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1353
HEAD OFFICE:—LONDON.

Paid-up Capital ... \$1,200,000
Reserve Fund ... \$1,200,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors \$1,200,000

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking business transacted.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and **FIXED DEPOSITS** received for 1 year or shorter periods at rates which will be quoted on application.

T. C. DOWNING,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th June, 1915. [141]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed on the Minimum Monthly Balances at 3 1/2 per cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on **FIXED DEPOSIT** at 4 per cent. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 2nd November, 1914. [10]

Printed and Published by HENRY ADOLPHUS CARTWRIGHT, for THE HONGKONG DAILY PRESS, Ltd., at 10A, Des Vœux Road Central, [Hongkong]
London Office: 131, Fleet Street, E.C.

BANKS

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED (TAIWAN GINKO).

INCORPORATED BY SPECIAL IMPERIAL CHARTER, 1899.

Capital Subscribed ... Yen 20,000,000
Capital Paid-up ... " 15,000,000
Reserve Funds ... " 5,000,000

HEAD OFFICE:
TAIPEH, FORMOSA.

BRANCHES:
JAPAN—KOBE, OSAKA, TOKYO & YOKOHAMA.
FORMOSA—AKO, GIRAN, KAGI, KARENKO, KEELUNG, MAKUNG, PINAN, SHIN-KHUI, TAIPEH, TAIWAN, TAREW, TAMSUI.

CHINA—AMOI, CANTON, FOOCHOW, HANKOW, KUALANG, SHANGHAI, SWATOW.

OTHERS—HONGKONG, LONDON, SINGAPORE, SOMERAPAH, SEMARANG & NEW YORK.

LONDON BANKERS:
Capital and Counties Bank, London, and South-Western Bank, Parr's Bank.

The Bank has Correspondents in the Commercial centres of Russia, Manchuria, India, China, India, Philippine Islands, Java, Australia, America, and elsewhere.

N. YANAGITA
Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH,
3, Des Vœux Road,
Hongkong, 10th March, 1917. [104]

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE: 15, Gracechurch St., London

Authorized Capital ... \$1,500,000
Subscribed ... " 1,125,000
Paid-up ... " 625,000
Reserve Fund ... " 550,000

BANKERS:
THE BANK OF ENGLAND,
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED

BRANCHES:
Bombay, Calcutta, Karachi, Penang, Calcutta, Hongkong, Kato, Bham, Bangalore, Colombo, Howrah, Kuala Lumpur, Shanghai, Delhi, Kandy, Madras, Singapore, Port Louis (Mauritius).

HONGKONG BRANCH.
Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts at 2 per cent. per annum or Daily Balances and on Fixed Deposits at rates that may be ascertained on application.

C. CHAMPKIN,
Acting Manager.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1916. [52]